

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SCCT-01 AID-05 SCSE-00 SCA-01

SY-05 INRE-00 /086 W

----- 108709

O R 291520Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8405

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 1793

USIA FOR IBS, IPS

NAIROBI FOR VOA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: PRESS BRIEFING

AT USIS BRIEFING FOR PRESS TODAY,

SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED "THIS IS A PERIOD OF INTENSE, BEHIND THE SCENES ACTIVITY DIRECTED AT ESTABLISHING DIALOGUE WITH THE KIDNAPPERS, AVENUES ARE BEING EXPLORED WITH ALL GOVERNMENTS AND PARTIES CONCERNED." HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT MAY 30 IS BIRTHDAY KIDNAPPED STUDENT BERGMAN AND THAT DUTCH AND AMERICAN AMBASSADORS AND THREE PARENTS PRESENT IN DAR, ARE SENDING GREETINGS TO HER MOTHER IN HOLLAND. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT STANFORD UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE DR. HAMBURG ARRIVED TODAY, AND THAT HE AND PARENTS

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WERE BEING BRIEFED BY AMBASSADOR CARTER THIS AFTERNOON.

IN ANSWER TO QUERY SPOKESMAN SAID DUTCH AMBASSADOR
IN TANZANIA MET WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE TODAY AT 12:30 P.M.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SUMMARY:

Q. WAS THERE ANY MEETING TODAY BETWEEN EMBASSY AND
TANZANIAN OFFICIALS?

A. NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

Q. BUT WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE WORKING WITH ALL THE
PARTIES INVOLVED DOES THAT NOT MEAN ONE OF THE
PARTIES INVOLVED IS THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT?

A. WELL AS I SAID EARLIER THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR WHO MET
WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE TODAY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH
AMBASSADOR CARTER.

Q. WHAT WAS THE MEETING ABOUT THIS AFTERNOON BETWEEN
AMBASSADOR CARTER AND DR. HAMBURG AND THE PARENTS?

A. I HAVE NO INFORMATION, I IMAGINE THEY ARE SHARING
VIEWS AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST AND BEING BROUGHT UP TO DATE.

Q. WHAT IS TELEGRAM TO MRS. BERGMAN GOING TO

A. I DO NOT KNOW.

Q. IS SHE COMING?

A. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. IS THERE A FATHER?

A. THE INFORMATION I HAVE IS GREETINGS BEING SENT
TO HER MOTHER.

Q. REGARDING OPENING COMMUNICATION WITH KIDNAPPERS
HAS RADIO TANZANIA BEEN ASKED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM?

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A. NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE, TO MY KNOWLEDGE RADIO
TANZANIA HAS BEEN BROADCASTING THE NEWS AS IT HAPPENS.

Q. ANY INFORMATION REGARDING ACTIVITIES OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE.

A. NO.

Q. IS IT TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION OR DO YOU GET ALL YOUR INFORMATION FROM ZAIRE THROUGH WASHINGTON.

A. BOTH.

Q. I HAVE HEARD ON NEIGHBOURING RADIO THAT ZAIRE HAS NOT BEEN VERY COOPATIVE (REFERRING TO VOICE OF KENYA).

A. I HAVE NOT HEARD THE BROADCAST - I HAVE NO COMMENT.

Q. HOW LONG IS DR. HAMBURG GOING TO STAY.

A. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. WHO IS PAYING FOR THE PARENTS' STAY HERE?

A. I HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THAT, THEY CAME HERE ON THEIR OWN RESOURCES WHICH LEAVES ME TO BELIEVE THEY ARE PAYING THEIR OWN HOTEL BILLS.

Q. HAL LUCIUS AND MACFARLANE STILL IN KIGOMA?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, YES.

Q. IS THE EMBASSY STILL IN RADIO CONTACT WITH THEM SEVERAL TIMES A DAY.

A. WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH THEM.

Q. IS MISS SMUTS AT THE RESIDENCE

A. NO. THEY HAVE MOVED TO A HOTEL.

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Q. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE NAME OF THE LEADER AND THE GROUP ALLEGED TO HAVE KIDNAPPED THE STUDENTS AND THE LOCATION OF THEIR HEAD OFFICE ARE KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, IS IT NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO CONTACT THESE PEOPLE AND SECURE RELEASE OF THESE STUDENTS?

A. I CANNOT COMMENT ON THAT OTHER THAN TO INDICATE AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE THAT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER RESTS WITH TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. ANY WORD FROM THE ZAIRE GOVERNMENT HOW THINGS ARE PROGRESSING IN KINSHASA?

A. I HAVE NO INFORMATION IN THAT AREA.

Q. ARE THERE ANY AMERICAN PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE PATROL BOATS ON LAKE TANGANYIKA. IT SEEMS THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN EITHER THE DELIVERY OR THE OPERATION OF THESE PATROL BOATS.

A. AS I SAID EARLIER, THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS MATTER RESTS WITH TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. BY SAYING THIS ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT TAKING ANY ACTION TO TRY AND GET IN CONTACT WITH THE KIDNAPPERS?

A. I CANNOT COMMENT ON THAT.

Q. THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT SAYS THAT IT IS NOT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, DOES THAT MEAN THAT NOBODY IS TRYING TO GET IN CONTACT?

A. QUOTING AMBASSADOR CARTER, SPOKESMAN SAID "I CAN ONLY SAY THAT MOVEMENT IS CONTINUING ON THAT" AND WHEN ASKED WHAT THE NATURE OF THIS COMMUNICATION WAS THE AMBASSADOR SAID "I AM NOT AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS THAT, I HOPE I WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THAT WITH YOU IN DUE COURSE". I HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO THAT.

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Q. BY YOUR INSISTENCE THAT RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH TANZANIA YOU MUST BE SAYING THAT TANZANIA IS INVOLVED WITH SETTING THIS UP?

A. I STAND WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT.
CARTER

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